

Appl. No.: 10/773,828
Amdt. Dated: ____ December 2006
Reply to Office Action mailed 12/08/06

Remarks/Arguments

Applicant submits this Amendment in response to the Office Action mailed 12/08/2006 and marked FINAL. Co-filed with this Amendment is a Request for Continued Examination of the application under 37 C.F.R. 1.114. Enclosed is a completed Form PTO-2038 for the fees.

In this Office the Examiner has objected to claims 2-4, 6 and 7 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim while also stating these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 2 thereby making claim 1 allowable. Claim 2 has been amended to delete the limitations added to claim 1 and to add new limitations. Claims 3-9 have been variously amended as well as to depend directly or indirectly from allowable claim 1 and thus are likewise allowable.

Claims 10-15 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Amendment to the written description is requested herein, it being submitted that the changes merely provide additional explanatory description that is clearly depicted in the drawings, and do not include new matter but rather. Accordingly, claims 10-15 are submitted as free from this rejection.

Claims 10-15 have further been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention, the Examiner objecting to the terms "connecting members" and "side wood panels" as being merely inferentially claimed. Claim 10 has have been amended to correct for the informality and is thus submitted that claim 10 and claims 11-15 dependent directly or indirectly therefrom are free from this rejection.

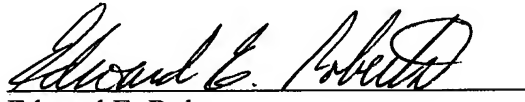
Claims 1, 5, 8, 9, 16 and 18-20 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Morris (U.S. Pat. No. 3,462,038) and claim 17 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Morris in view of Prime et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,953,730). As previously mentioned, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 2 and thus deemed free of rejection in view of Morris either under 35 USC 102(b) or 35 USC 103(a).

Claims 5, 8, and 9 in being directly or indirectly dependent from claim 1 are likewise submitted as allowable. Claims 16-20 have been canceled.

In view of the above, applicant submits that the claims remaining in the case, that is claims 1-15 as amended, are now in proper form for allowance and requests that the application be allowed to proceed to issue.

Respectively submitted,

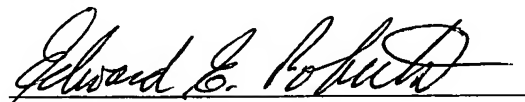
Dated: 27 December 2006


Edward E. Roberts
Attorney for Applicant

P.O. Box 3206
Dana Point, CA 92629
T: (949) 365-5717
F: (949) 365-5718

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 27 December 2006.


Edward E. Roberts
Reg. No. 26,024